

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/627,401

Examiner

CUONG H. NGUYEN

Applicant(s)

COCOTIS ET AL.

Art Unit

3661

## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/04/05 (After-Final amendment).
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14, 24; they are renumbered as 1-15.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 27 July 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

### Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

CUONG H. NGUYEN  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 3661

1. This Action is the answer to an after-final rejection amendment filed on 4/04/05.
2. Independent claims 1, and 24 are amended; claims 1-14, and 24 are pending in this application. Claims 15-23, and 25-52 were canceled.
3. The examiner withdraws the rejections mailed on 1/03/2005 due to said After-Final Amendment.

***Allowable Subject Matter & Reasons for Allowance***

4. Independent claims 1, and 24 have common limitations that are patentable over the closest cited references of Huberman (US Pat. 5,826,244), Lobiondo (US Pat. 5,287,194), Sevcik et al. (US Pat. 6,330,542), Shiota (US Pat. 6,324,521), Chui (US Pat. 6,657,702), Enomoto (US Pat. 5,974,401), and Tannenbaum (WO 99/41899) because those prior art do not anticipate nor fairly and reasonably teach an interactive arrangement for a market portal (a bidding site) collecting, and storing market information, which includes print services and pricing information from a service provider, and obtaining selection criteria from an interactive shop for selecting service providers, wherein the market portal selecting a print service provider based on those interactive criteria and said market information. The above prior art also do not teach about adjusting selection criteria (for user's biddings) of service providers.
5. Dependent claims 2-14 are allowed because they are dependent of allowable claim 1.

***Conclusion***

6. Claims 1-14, and 24 are patentable; claim 24 is renumbered as claim 15.
7. Remarks:

- A hit of US Pat. 6,330,542 (Sevcik et al.) is found during Forward Reference Search; however, this reference shows a different configuration (see Sevcik et al., Fig. 1A, 9-13) to INTERACTING ACTIVITIES of pending claims for “Interactive Photo Shop “ (Fig.4 ref.402), “Photo Service Provider” (Fig.4 ref.404), and “a Patron” (Fig.4 ref.401)
  - A hit of US Pat. 5,287,194 (Lobiondo) is found during Backward Reference Search; however, this reference only teaches different available printers for different print jobs (US class. 358/296,1.15 and 399/1); it does not teach a claimed environment where different printing providers for selection are interactively participated (US class 705/26).
  - PCT/EP01/08318 – published. on 4/07/2002 (Chiarabini et al.) does not have a proper priority date for a rejection, although it was filed on 7/21/2000 (GB 0017911.9).
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CUONG H. NGUYEN whose telephone number is 571-272-6759. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 am - 3:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, THOMAS G. BLACK can be reached on 571-272-6956. The Rightfax number for the examiner where this application is assigned is 571-273-6759.

S.N. 09/627,401

Art Unit 3661

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CAN

CUONG H. NGUYEN

Primary Examiner

Art Unit 3661

*Cuonghnguyen*